

# THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 7, 1916.

WHOLE NUMBER 1955

## BEAN JOBBERS CONVENED HERE

Central Michigan Association Held Annual Meeting on Tuesday.

## HUNDRED FIFTY WERE PRESENT

William G. Griffin of Alma Elected to Head Jobbers During Coming Year.

On Tuesday of this week the annual meeting of the Central Michigan Bean Jobbers association was held in this city, and bean jobbers from all through Central Michigan, with their wives and families were present, and combined the business meeting of the association with a good time, that made the day somewhat of a holiday for them, and their families. About a hundred and fifty jobbers and members of their families were present in all.

A morning session of the association was held at the city hall, at which time the reports of the secretary and treasurer were given, and was followed by a general discussion of the bean situation in not only Central Michigan, but over the entire state. It seemed to be the impression of the jobbers present that the present outlook for the bean crop was on a normal crop basis, and withdrawing conditions on change for the next two weeks, that Michigan would have about a 75 percent crop. In a number of places it was thought that the crop would go twenty-five bushel to the acre, and that in others it was very small, and would amount to only three or four bushel to the acre.

Following the discussion of the bean crop officers of the association were elected for the ensuing year. William G. Griffin of this city, was elected president of the association, R. A. Law of Freeland, secretary, and Fred Barnard of St. Louis, treasurer. The election of Mr. Griffin to the presidency of the association, was a fitting climax to his strenuous efforts towards making the meeting here a big success.

At noon the bean jobbers adjourned to the I. O. O. F. hall, where a fine banquet awaited them and which was thoroughly enjoyed by the jobbers and their families. One hundred and fifty plates were laid for the dinner. Following the dinner several addresses were made, the first being by Mayor McKinney of Alma, who extended the glad hand to the day's visitors. The response to the address of welcome was made by W. I. Biles of Saginaw.

Rev. William H. Mason of this city gave a fine address to the banqueters on the subject of "Co-operation," and made a big hit with the jobbers.

F. A. Butterworth, assistant general freight agent of the Pere Marquette railroad gave an address in which he defended the position that the railroads were taking in their several states, increased railroad rates, etc. In defending the position of the railroads he made some strong points and made a big impression on his audience.

"The Part We Play," an address by W. I. Nokely of the Kenawha Dispatch, of Toledo, Ohio, was a strong one, which left a lasting impression. Full of good wholesome thought the Alma Record is glad to give the address in full for its readers. The address follows:

"Opportunities to address men assembled as here, are not of such frequency as to make me anything but appreciative of the invitation to come before you and I am deeply sensible of this privilege. In this hurry, hustle and impatient, being an impulsive people, quick to form an opinion and quick to change, we are often caused to lose our appreciation of sterling worth, and as one of the many freight solicitors who daily approach you in the interest of their services, as well as your own, I use this occasion to attempt a brief outline of the part we play in the routine of your business affairs.

## BEN JONES INJURED

Match Carelessly Lighted Near Gas Pipe Caused Small Explosion.

Ben Jones, an employee of the Gratiot County Gas company, received a number of bruises and a cut above his right eye last Saturday, when a small gas explosion took place. It seems that Jones was poking gas into the new store room that Fortino Brothers have just erected to the rear of their fruit store, and that some of the gas had escaped into the tile wall of the building. Jones thoughtlessly lighted a match and the gas ignited, causing an explosion, which tore a number of the tile out of the wall, as well as injuring the workman. The Gas company has now given strict orders regarding the use of matches by their employees while working.

## CALL OFF ILLINOIS PICNIC

Owing to a case of infantile paralysis in the city of St. Johns the annual Illinois picnic held in that city will go by the boards this year, it having been called off because of this dread plague. The schools of that city are not opening on time owing to this cause.

## AGED RESIDENT OF ALMA PASSED AWAY

Benjamin Ray, in 94th Year, Died at His Home Here Last Thursday.

Last week Thursday, after the Record had gone to press, came the news of the death of Benjamin Ray, one of the oldest of Gratiot's pioneer citizens. Death was due to old age, Mr. Ray having been in his 94th year.

Mr. Benjamin Ray was born in Lacey, Lake county, Ohio, November 5, 1822, the son of George and Betty Ray, both of whom were natives of Mohawk Valley in New York. On July 24, 1844 he was married to Miss Nancy Post, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Post, the marriage taking place at Madison, Ohio. Three years later they moved to Michigan settling in VanBuren county, locating near the city of Paw Paw. In 1875 they moved to Gratiot county, and until twelve years ago resided on their farm in Arcadia township, near this city. Twelve years ago, owing to his advanced age Mr. Ray gave up farming and moved into Alma, locating at the corner of Park avenue and West Center street, where they have since resided.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Ray were the parents of six children, all of whom are still living. They are Mr. Charles Ray, George Ray and Mrs. Charles Clark of Canada, Mr. W. W. Ray of Wiloughby, Ohio; Mr. Joe Ray of Alma, and Mrs. C. H. Decker of Alma.

Mr. Ray early in life joined the Methodist church, both he and his wife uniting with this church in Paw Paw, Michigan, in 1849.

The funeral was held at 1:30 Sunday afternoon, Rev. Thomas G. R. Brownlow officiating, and interment was made at Ithaca.

## FOOTBALLERS OUT

Coach Kimball Got Candidates Out First Day of School.

Alma high's new football coach, M. R. Kimball, did not lose a minute's time in getting the Alma high school football candidates out for work, the new Mentor having a dozen and a half men out immediately after the close of school on Tuesday.

On Wednesday night the squad increased considerably in number, including some husky young fellows that look mighty good and may turn out to have some fine football stuff in them. At this stage of the game it is useless and foolish to pick out any of the new men, as none of them have had a chance to display anything yet, as the coach has been confining his work so far to the usual early season work.

Several of the old men are back, although not all of them have reported to the coach as yet, but it is expected that they will do so before the week is over. Among the old men who were out at the start on Tuesday were Capt. "Ginny" Campbell, Kress, Howe, Stator, Greenho, and Smith. These men will probably all make the team again this year. Campbell, Howe, Kress and Smith are sure to, and the team may be built around these star veterans.

## HOME IMPROVEMENT ASS'N

At a meeting of the Home Improvement and Building association held the latter part of last week a deal was made, whereby the association sold ten lots in the new addition to Henry Soule, who will build ten new houses in this addition at once. The houses will cost from \$1,500 to \$2,000 each.

It has been decided by the association to leave the naming of the plat to the Civic Improvement league, and also to have the ladies name the streets of the sub-division. The plat has been entirely staked out and will be on file soon. It has also been decided by the association to have a small park in the center of the sub-division, which will be taken care of by the Civic Improvement league.

## INAUGURAL TO BE BIG AFFAIR

Many Noted College Presidents will see H. M. Crooks Inaugurated.

## GOV. FERRIS MAY BE HERE

Last Day of October and First Day of November is the Time.

Arrangements are being rapidly pushed to wards the making of a fine program for the two day inaugural ceremonies, October 31st and November 1st, when the board of trustees of Alma college will formally inaugurate H. M. Crooks, the new president of Alma college. Work enough has been done now to assure a big affair that will long be remembered.

During the two day affair, a big educational conference will be held here by college presidents, who will be at the inauguration. Among those who have so far signified their intention of being here for the inauguration and the conference President H. B. Hutchins of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; President C. M. Stebbins of the Duquesne German college and seminary, Duquesne, Iowa; President J. Campbell White of Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio; President Samuel Dickie of Albion college, Albion, Mich.; President H. M. Gage of Huron college, Huron, S. D.; President W. O. Carrier of Carroll college, Waukesha, Wisconsin; President John S. Nolan of Lake Forest college, Lake Forest, Illinois; Dean Thomas C. Blaisdell of Penn. State university, Penn. State, Penn.; W. W. Boyd, president of Western College for Women, Oxford, Ohio; and Dr. E. A. McAlpine, president of the Presbyterian College board.

Many tentative replies have been received from college presidents, who have stated that they will be in Alma, or else have personal representatives of the college present. Among these are President Weir G. Kettler of the Grove City, Penn. college; H. L. Stetson, president of Kalamazoo college, Kalamazoo, Mich.; President C. H. Bonnellkamp of Illinois college, Jacksonville, Ill.; A. Vennema, president of Hope college, Holland, Mich.; D. B. Waldo, president of the Western State normal at Kalamazoo, Mich.; G. L. MacKintosh, president of Washburn university, Crawfordville, Indiana; B. H. Krouse, president of Jamestown college, Jamestown, N. D.; E. E. Reed, Westminster college, Fulton, Mo.; President Jno. Boen of Occidental college, Los Angeles, Cal.; President Chas. McKenny of the Michigan State normal at Ypsilanti and President W. F. Foster of Reed college, Portland, Oregon.

From Governor Ferris and from Fred L. Keeler, superintendent of Public Instruction for Michigan, come replies that they will be present if possible. In the case of the governor it is very likely that politics may keep him from attending, the fall election being just a few days after the inauguration.

The educational conference of the college presidents will be held probably on October 31st, leaving the entire day, November 1st for the formal inaugural of the new president, Harry Means Crooks.

## GETS MEHLIN PIANO AGENCY

The Alma Music Store have secured the local agency for the Mehlin piano. The Mehlin is an eastern piano of the highest grade, ranging in price from \$475.00 to \$1400.00. It is used by the New York high schools, various musical conservatories, and by pianists of national repute. Arthur Friedholm, Liszt's favorite pupil and greatest interpreter of that master, uses the Mehlin piano exclusively. The local store also carries the exclusive line of Lyon & Healy's pianos and players which are noted for their high grade, and pure tones.

The Alma Music Store has made possible for its patrons to buy musical merchandise at city prices, all the latest popular hits in 10 cent music, Century Standard edition, of 10 cent music 1800 copies to choose from. The Emerson disc records, of double selections which sell for 25 cents. These records are only three weeks from Broadway to the Alma store.

The proprietors, Frank F. Smith and Chas. A. Maney, believe that they are contributing materially to the welfare of the city by bringing these features to Alma, and appreciate very much the friendly attitude and co-operative spirit of its citizens.—Adv.

## EWING LEAVES RECORD

City Editor Wm. Ewing Goes to Republic Sales Department.

Will A. Ewing, who for the past two months has acted as city editor of the Alma Record, with such good results as to bring much favorable comment to the Record, has resigned his position and has accepted a position with the Republic Motor Truck company, in the sales and advertising department. He has been succeeded for the present at least by Homer Dunham. Any courtesy shown him will be appreciated.

## PROF. WEST RETURNS TO ALMA COLLEGE

Head of Chemistry Department Spent a Year in Research Work in West

Professor F. E. West of the Department of Chemistry at Alma College, returned home this week after spending the past twelve months in the western states, where he has been doing research work at some of the leading American universities, among these being the University of Wisconsin and the University of Chicago.

Professor F. E. West was granted the Sabbatical year of leave by the Alma college board of trustees for the college year of 1915-16. This leave is given each year to some of the professors and is to be used in research work for the betterment of the college courses.



PROF. F. E. WEST

Besides spending a semester at both Wisconsin and California, Professor West has visited twelve of the western universities and colleges, and on these visits has come in contact with other learned men in his line, and gained many new ideas in this way. In his visits throughout the western states, Professor West has visited at the Panama-Pacific exposition, the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, the famous Yosemite Valley of California, Santa Fe, New Mexico, the oldest city in the United States, etc. On these visits and side trips he has seen many of the most famous wonders of the world.

He returns to Alma College better equipped than ever for his work in the department of chemistry, and will be warmly greeted by the students of the College who are taking work in this department.

## COLLEGE PROSPECTS GOOD

Large Enrollment is Looked for This Year.

Alma college is now about ready for the opening of the college year, Sept. 20th, and all indications are pointing to one of the best years that the college has ever enjoyed, especially from the view point of a big enrollment.

Already many applications for rooms in both Wright and Pioneer halls have been made, these being in greater number than has been the case in past years and it is leading to the belief that the enrollment this year will far exceed that of a year ago, and approach closely to that of two years ago, which was the banner year in Alma's history in attendance. One of the chief reasons why a big attendance is being looked for is the fact that two men have been on the road for the college nearly the entire summer, and Professor James E. Mitchell for a greater portion of the time, the efforts of the three having been directed to the securing of new students for Alma. It has been some years since Alma has had a field agent, and never before more than one.

The vacancies on the faculty caused by the resignations of Miss Waite and Coach Bleasman have been filled in a satisfactory manner, especially is this true in the latter case. Helmer has always been popular in Alma with students and business men, and all are looking forward to a most successful athletic year under the first graduate coach.

During the summer months many needed improvements of a minor nature have been taking place around the college grounds and buildings, but these have chiefly been confined to the administration building, where the walls have been tinted, and the badly leaking roof, reshingled.

Postmaster V. P. Cash was a Farwell visitor the first of the week.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPENED TUESDAY

Largest Enrollment That The Alma Schools Have Had.

## ALL ROOMS ARE CROWDED

Will Need New Building in a Few Years for Which Ground is Offered.

On Tuesday morning the tolling of the bell, and the patter of feet told Alma people that the public schools of this city were again open for another year's school year, and it brought to the public schools on the first day the largest enrollment that the schools have ever enjoyed.

The total enrollment for the first day was just one hundred and thirty larger than was the case a year ago on the first day of school. Last year the enrollment on the first day was 801, while on the first day this year it was 931. Last year the enrollment was the largest in the history of the schools for opening day, making the enrollment this year the largest.

In the high school 218 students were registered the first day, as against 188 the first day last year, an increase of thirty. Since Tuesday a few more have entered and there are prospects for a number more before the month is over. Last year at the end of the first month of school twenty-three more had entered high school, making the enrollment at the end of the first month 211, or less than the first day for this year. It is probable that the end of the first month of the school year will see a health increase over the number now in high school.

In the union school on the east side of the river, there are 355 students for the first day of the school year as against 303 the first day last year an increase of 52 in the number attending in this building by the close of the school month.

In the primary building there are 557 students who were entered the first day against 510 last year an increase of nearly a half hundred. Other young tots will be entering in the primary building for some time and will greatly increase this number.

The school rooms are all crowded. A school teacher is supposed to have from thirty to thirty-five students, whereas now in the various grades the teachers have from forty to forty-five, as the increase in students is spread fairly evenly in all the grades. If a much greater increase comes during the next month in attendance it is very probable that a couple more teachers will be needed. In this case there are two rooms in the basement of the primary building, which will probably be called into use. These rooms have been finished up for this purpose and can be used in case of such a need.

It is almost a certainty now that if Alma continues to enjoy as fine a growth in the next three years as it has in the past three years, that a new school building will be a crying need. Right now is a fine time for people to consider such a thing, as ground has been offered to the school board for such a purpose. One-half acre of ground on East Superior, and east of Grover avenue in the new sub-division has been offered to the school board by P. W. Cresser for this purpose. One-half acre would not be enough for a school building, but it is believed that Mr. Cresser would make the lot an acre, by some in a position to know, and this would be sufficient for a school building. The school board has the power to tentatively accept such an offer, pending its acceptance by the school district at the next coming election. As yet the board has not accepted tentatively, but will probably do so.

The natural growth of Alma is to the east, in the district wherein are located her factories, and where subdivisions abound, where workmen can get lots at all kinds of prices, and which are located somewhere near the factories where they are employed. This means that a school will sooner or later be needed in this district. The school district can get at least a half acre, possibly more by accepting the offer. It would save the district money as a school will be needed, and the school is bound to come in a few years.

## ADAMS IS ALDERMAN

Appointed by Mayor and Council to Succeed Bert Eckert in Second.

At the regular meeting of the city council on Tuesday evening of this week, D. W. Adams of the second ward, was appointed as alderman to succeed Bert Eckert, who recently moved from the second ward to the first ward, and hence became ineligible to hold the office of second ward alderman. Mr. Adams, through his connection with the city clerk's office for over ten years, has knowledge of the city at his finger tips, as has no other citizen of Alma, and should prove a most valuable man, not only to the second ward, but to the entire city, as alderman.

Justice Al Mann and H. M. Page transacted business in North Star on Monday.

## PAVEMENT BEING FIXED

Holes in Pavement on East Side Were Filled in Again.

A number of workmen were busy the fore part of the week on the concrete paving east of the bridge, where for some time there have been numerous holes in the pavement, which have been making driving anything but a joy on that portion of the main street. The workmen have been cleaning out these holes, cutting back under the solid concrete, and filling these holes in with new concrete, making the pavement smooth again, as it was when first laid.

## HOLD OPENING THIS WEEK

The new millinery store of Mesdames Miner and Bennett, which was recently purchased by these ladies from Mrs. A. B. Cook, is now open to the public, with a full line of the latest millinery. The new proprietors of the millinery store are also planning on doing dressmaking in connection with the millinery end of the business. The formal opening of the new store is being held today, Friday and Saturday.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT GIVES EXPLANATION

Death of Grace Crownover not by Infantile Paralysis as Some Thought It.

On account of the numerous inquiries that are coming to the health department concerning the cause of the death of Grace Crownover, the 16-month old daughter of the dairyman of the Knudson farm, it seems expedient that the public be given the facts.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, July 12th, the child was taken with violent convulsions and within two hours was dead. There being five other children in the family, the parents were deeply concerned as to the cause of death, fearing that the same dreadful fate might fall upon the rest of the little brood.

The father appealed to the Alma health officer, who expressed a willingness to render any assistance and co-operate with the family doctor in an effort to ascertain the cause of such sudden death. The desired co-operation was not available, so in the presence of Dr. Barstow of St. Louis an autopsy was performed and the cause of the death found to be an enlargement of the Thymus gland which lies behind the breast bone and is in contact with the pericardial sack which envelops the heart and is in contact with the large vessels and important nerves which occupy this part of the chest cavity. The average weight of the gland at 18 months is about 85 grains. This gland weighed 390 grains within an hour after removal.

A specimen of the spinal fluid was withdrawn and sent to the State Pathological laboratory at Lansing. The specimen contained such a quantity of blood elements that a careful examination could not be made, however, no evidence of disease was found. The cause of death therefore was apoplexy, (intercranial and inter-spinal pressure) caused by the severe convulsions which were stimulated by the enlarged Thymus gland.

During the past week three new cases of scarlet fever have been reported to the department. All three cases are mild ones.

Dr. T. J. Carney of the city health department is taking a trip this week to Flint, Jackson and a number of the small cities near Detroit, with a view of looking over the dairy conditions at these places and the ordinances pertaining to the handling of milk in these places. After a study of the conditions found on the trip, Dr. Carney will make recommendations to the city council in regard to local dairy and milk conditions.

The citizens of Alma in voting for pure water and adequate sewers sounded in a thundering voice their disapproval of the unclean unsanitary and unwholesome conditions as they exist at present. In consequence of this expression of approval of the council's efforts towards a clean Alma, the department is encouraged to press on with renewed energy, its effort in this direction.

## GETS COLLEGE BOOK STORE

Murphy Drug Store Makes Important Addition to Business.

Charles R. Murphy, who recently purchased the Chas. G. Rhodes drug store, has already made a fine addition to his business, he having purchased the Alma college book store, which has been run in the past by Coach W. C. Bleasman. While his dealings with this department will be mostly with college people, it brings a good trade, as every student in the college is in need of books, etc., for the college courses, and the other little necessities without which college life is not complete.

## BUY OUT PERKINS

C. A. Ogle & Son, Alma's harness makers, purchased the Perkins vulcanizing outfit the latter part of last week, and in the future will do this class of work as well as continue their old business. The vulcanizing machine has been moved from the room to the rear of the Alma State Savings Bank to the store of C. A. Ogle & Son, east of the post office.

## GRATIOT COUNTY IS EQUALIZED

State Board of Equalization Finished Its Work This Last Week.

## GRATIOT TAX TO BE LOWER

Committee Succeeds in Getting Equalization Placed Lower Than Two Years Ago.

The Michigan State Board of Equalization which has been in session in Lansing for nearly a week finished its work the latter part of last week, and has placed the equalized value of the state at the same amount as two years ago, -2,800,000,000. This is far smaller than the amount recommended by the state tax commission, following the trips of members of the commission through the state. Gratiot county is one of the Michigan counties to receive favorable treatment from the hands of the state board of equalization. The state tax commission had recommended that the county of Gratiot be equalized at \$32,066,701, or over five million dollars greater than the valuation of two years ago, this being \$27,000,000. Not only did Gratiot county succeed in getting the recommendation cut, but actually succeeded in securing an equalized value smaller than that of two years ago, the state board of equalization, equalizing the county of Gratiot at its Lansing meeting at \$25,700,000.

The Gratiot county board of supervisors thought that the value of the county as recommended by the state tax commission was far too high, and from among the supervisors, Jesse E. Fuller of Alma and A. F. Wright of St. Louis were appointed to go to Lansing and make a plea in behalf of this county. The Gratiot county men appeared before the board at Lansing last week and made a convincing plea.

The two Gratiot county men brought out the fact that the recommended equalization of the tax commission was greater than the assessed valuation of the county, and that the assessed valuation was figured as being up to the cash value. It was also brought out that the counties surrounding this one had not been equalized at anything like the amount that Gratiot had, and that the counties of Midland and Isabella together were not equalized for as much as was Gratiot county. Mr. Fuller and Mr. Wright then compared the cities of Alma and Mt. Pleasant, and Midland and St. Louis, and the townships of these counties, as compared with Gratiot's townships. The committee also convinced the state board that when the state tax commission visited Gratiot county in 1914 that the county was in what is known as a land boom, brought on by real estate dealers for their own benefit.

The able arguments of these men so thoroughly convinced the state board of equalization that they not only cut the recommended amount, but even the amount at which Gratiot was assessed two years ago, by over a million dollars. Now Gratiot will pay a little less than one percent of the entire state tax. Wayne county which also put up a big fight on its equalization will pay nearly a third of the entire state tax, this amount being 30 percent of the whole.

## EPWORTH LEAGUE RALLY

County Leagues Will Meet Here This Saturday.

The annual Epworth League rally of the various leagues of the M. E. churches of the county will be held at the Methodist Episcopal church in this city on Saturday, September 9th. A fine program has been arranged which follows:

9:00—Music  
"Why the Epworth League," Rev. T. G. R. Brownlow, Alma.  
9:30—"Why the First Department," Miss Lexie Wool, Elm.  
Discussion, "Our First Department," Mr. Lee Halstead, Breckenridge.  
10:30—"Why the Second Department," Miss Margaret Lassen, Ithaca.  
Discussion, "Our Second Department," Miss Verna Deline, St. Louis.  
12:00—Dinner in the parlors of the church (Delegates to bring baskets).  
1:30—Music.  
"The Relation of the Epworth League to the Church," Rev. S. B. Ford, St. Louis.  
2:15—"Why the Third Department," Miss Vida Greig, District Third Vice President.  
Discussion, "Our Third Department," Russell Allen, Wheeler.  
3:15—"Why the Fourth Department," Miss Fern Rule, Alma.  
Discussion, "Our Fourth Department," Orlando Fea, Sumner Center.  
4:00—"How to Conduct a Successful Devotional Meeting," Rev. Dunbar, Wheeler.  
4:15—"Why the Treasury," Wilbur F. Price, District Treasurer.  
"Our Financial Plan," Miss Rhea Tallon, Riverdale.  
5:00—"Why the Junior League," Miss Lulu Blackman, District Junior League Superintendent.  
"Our Juniors," Miss Mildred Avery, Alma.  
Supper  
7:00—Music  
"The Vision We Need," Rev. M. A. Brand, Breckenridge.